UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

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"This place has prestige. Americans admire someone who graduates from the Naval Academy. And I've got a foundation that will last me the rest of my life. I can build from this point because I made my mark here mentally, not just athletically."

"Attending the Naval Academy is an excellent way for a minority to get ahead in today's world. Your success at the Academy depends not on the color of your skin but on your competence and your worth as a human being."

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"Some of my friends went to good schools, MIT, Brown, places like that . . . Others who were good in athletics went to a jock school. I get the best of both here."

"If you want to push yourself far beyond your believable limits, both mentally and physically, and if you want to achieve something of which you can be truly proud, then this may be the place for you."

U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY
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WHY THE NAVAL ACADEMY?

"The most rewarding aspect of my four years here has been the friends I have made . . . as close to me as brothers . . . will be my friends for life."

"It's definitely a way for blacks to get ahead, but you have to be prepared to sacrifice the 'good life' for awhile in order to attain your goals."

"WHY THE NAVAL ACADEMY?"

The United States Naval Academy is like no other college in the country, or the world for that matter. It has one mission, "To prepare midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically to be professional officers in the naval service." To accomplish this goal, the Naval Academy offers you more than just an excellent education. You're encouraged to develop mature judgment, confidence, leadership, strong moral character, and a sound physical body. You are helped to develop into the best "total person" you can be.

It isn't easy, but it isn't impossible either. As virtually every graduate will tell you, the rewards are worth the effort. At the academy, you receive an excellent education and much more: you'll learn about yourself, how to manage resources, and how to deal with people. At graduation, you'll be ready to take your place in life as a real leader.

Besides the educational and personal development opportunities, the Naval Academy offers an uncompromising and honest acceptance of each individual's ethnic background, and the opportunity to interact, on an equal basis, with some of the most highly motivated students anywhere. When you graduate, you'll have the distinction of joining an elite group of proven performers in the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps.

You will be fully prepared for the demanding and exciting role as a Navy or Marine officer, responsible for the operation of high-technology equipment and the welfare of many men and women. Whether you continue a naval career after your five-year obligation, or leave the service at that time to begin a civilian career, you can be confident in knowing that you are well-equipped to succeed, whatever you choose.

It's an opportunity not offered by any other college . . . and a career like no other in life. Only you can decide if it's what you want for yourself. Please take a careful look at the information in this folder. Then think about the sacrifices required versus the opportunities and rewards offered at the Naval Academy. Good luck in making your own best choice for your future.

"If you want the pride that comes from associating with quality people in an environment where truth, honor, and mutual trust are a way of life—and if you love your country and want to serve it well, I can assure you that you will find your experience at the Naval Academy is worthwhile."

VICE ADMIRAL WILLIAM P. LAWRENCE, USN
CLASS OF 1951

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WHAT'S LIFE AT THE ACADEMY REALLY LIKE?

"My class, my company—we're real close knit . . . do things together . . . can count on your classmates to back you up, I cherish that . . . real important to me."

"Women will continue to enter the Naval Academy for the same reason as men: for the challenge which the program offers."

"If you come here, you're guaranteed a profession and a job when you graduate. That's a big selling point for the Academy."

"WHAT'S LIFE AT THE ACADEMY REALLY LIKE?"

The Naval Academy is not like any civilian college. It's not supposed to be. The academy is the Navy's college and it functions in a military as well as an academic environment. The daily routine starts with reveille and ends with taps. The academy is definitely not for everyone. To make it here, you've got to like the idea of the place: what it stands for, where it leads, and what it takes to get through. You are entering a college but preparing for a career, right from the first day.

"WHAT ARE TUITION AND OTHER EXPENSES?"

Nothing . . . it's a full four-year scholarship with free room and board, medical and dental care, a salary of about $500 each month, and a commission upon graduation. In return, you agree to serve at least five years on active duty as an officer in the Navy or Marine Corps.

"HOW'S THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM?"

The 600-member faculty at the academy is about half officers and half civilians. All courses are taught by faculty members themselves, none by graduate assistants. Extra instruction by the faculty is available on a one-to-one basis, if needed.

The majors are engineering, science, mathematics, the social sciences, and the humanities—the choice is yours. Depending on your selection, you must take at least 28 semester hours of such military-professional courses as navigation, naval engineering, weapons, naval science, and naval history. A minimum of 140 semester hours is required for graduation.

All students enter as freshmen and have the opportunity to validate courses equivalent to previously completed college level work. Every student learns to use computers in his studies. Qualified students may take extra courses called "overloads" and seniors selected as Trident Scholars pursue independent research programs as part of their studies. Most graduates go on to Navy-sponsored graduate studies some time during their careers.

"WHAT IS THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM LIKE?"

It's important to remember the mission of the Naval Academy is to produce Navy and Marine officers. Most of the activities and programs have been prepared with that in mind.

More than 2,000 hours of professional military training are required during a midshipman's four years at the academy. This includes a wide range of leadership instruction, marching, and practical hands-on naval training conducted at the academy. In summers, midshipmen get on-the-job training aboard surface ships, submarines, and aircraft. At Navy and Marine Corps shore facilities leadership and behavioral theories are explored and practiced, but the day-to-day emphasis is on the exercise of actual leadership responsibilities. Summer cruises offer an exciting introduction to actual Navy and Marine Corps operations, to see the world.

"HOW MUCH EMPHASIS IS PUT ON SPORTS AND ATHLETICS?"

Every midshipman participates in a sport, either varsity or intramural. It's a primary part of the program for all four years.

The academy places great emphasis on sports and physical conditioning. There are more than 100 acres of lighted playing fields for tennis, soccer, lacrosse, football and baseball. There are indoor pools, an ice-skating rink, gymnasiums, wrestling and fencing lofts, a bowling alley, and a golf course. There is also a boathouse for crew and a sailing center with a fleet of more than 150 boats. The academy sponsors 33 varsity sports teams during the year, and as many intramural teams.

"ARE THERE MANY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?"

The academy has more than 80 extracurricular activities, including choirs, a drum and bugle corps, and a glee club. Midshipmen staff the yearbook and a number of other publications. There is a drama club, a photo club, an amateur ham radio club, a scuba club, an art and printing club, and a radio station. There are debaters, language clubs, a student chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, a physics honor society, an oceanography club, and a foreign relations club. There is recreational sailing on everything from sailboards to large offshore racing boats. There is even a flying club with instructors available to help midshipmen obtain their private licenses. There are probably more activities to attract your interest here than anywhere else . . . and plenty to take up your spare time.

"IS THERE MUCH SOCIAL LIFE?"

Plebe (freshman) year, social life is limited. However, there are movies, concerts, plays, and plenty of athletic events at the academy to attend. After the first year, social life opens up considerably, with more privileges and free time. Weekends allow for formal dances, sporting events and visiting many interesting sights in the Washington-Baltimore area. "What's life at the academy like?" . . . definitely anything but boring!

HOW DO YOU BECOME A MIDSHIPMAN?

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Admission requirements are outlined in the following six-step sequence. You must: (1) meet the basic eligibility requirements, (2) obtain a nomination, (3) qualify academically, (4) qualify medically, (5) qualify physically, and (6) you must be selected by the academy for admission.

1. Basic Eligibility: You must be an American of good moral character, at least 17 years old and not past your 22nd birthday on July 1 of the year you enter the academy.

2. Obtaining a Nomination: Nominations may be obtained from members of Congress. The first step is to apply for a nomination to the representative and both senators from your congressional district. Sample letters may be found in Appendix "A" of the catalog. Apply to all sources that you are eligible for, and apply in the Spring of your junior year. Congressmen may submit nominations to the academy up to January 31 of your senior year, but most submit their nominations earlier, during the fall of your senior year.

It is not necessary to know a congressman personally, nor do you need to have political influence to receive fair consideration. If you are a well-rounded student, it is not difficult to get a nomination.

Other sources of nominations include Presidential, Vice Presidential, Secretary of the Navy, and others. Detailed information on sources and eligibility is contained in the catalog.

If you cannot get a nomination through normal sources but are otherwise fully qualified, you may be placed on the academy's nationwide list of qualified candidates. Each year, more than 400 of these candidates are selected for admission.

The academy's admissions staff is anxious to help you obtain a nomination. Call the Candidate Guidance Office at 1–800–638–9156 for assistance.

3. Qualifying Academically: This phase begins by submitting your precandidate questionnaire (PCQ) to the admissions office. Once received, a file is opened and a preliminary screening is done. Provided you have a satisfactory class standing and SAT/ACT scores, you will be scheduled for a medical exam, and mailed a candidate packet. The Candidate Guidance Office can give you information on recent qualifying scores.

Once the candidate packet is returned, your record is taken before the Admissions Board. At this time, your high school transcript will be carefully evaluated. It should include all or most of the following: four years of math (including trigonometry), four years of English, two years of a modern language, and a year each of chemistry and physics.

4. The Medical Examination: You will be scheduled for a medical examination as soon as the admissions office determines you have a reasonable chance of qualifying academically.

Most candidates pass the medical exam easily. However, about one out of three candidates examined will be found to have medical limitations (almost all eye problems) requiring a medical waiver for admission. Unaided 20/20 vision in each eye is our basic requirement. If your eyes are without excessive refractive error and can be corrected to 20/20 with glasses, then you are considered within waiverable limits. Up to 35% of the incoming class is allowed to receive eye waivers. No waivers for defective color vision are granted.

You will receive notification via the mail as to when and where to go for the examination. Notification of exam results usually takes four to six weeks.

5. The Physical Aptitude Examination: The admissions office will send you an illustrated pamphlet describing the test and telling you how to go about taking it. There are four parts: chinning (flexed arm hang for women), a timed shuttle run of 300-yards (six round trips between two parallel lines spaced 25-yards apart), a standing broad jump for distance, and a basketball throw for distance from a kneeling position on a mat.

Contact your gym instructor to administer the test. It's a pass-or-fail test and takes roughly forty minutes to complete.

6. Selection for Appointment: Once the results of the medical exam, physical aptitude exam, and Admissions Board are in, you are roughly seventy-five percent done. If you have been successful in obtaining a nomination, you will be considered a "qualified candidate." Out of 14,000 students who apply, roughly 3,000 make it to this level. From this point, approximately 1,300 of the "top" qualified candidates will be offered appointments.

For those candidates not offered an appointment, but who have the qualities the academy is looking for, an offer to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School may be made. This school, located at Newport, Rhode Island, offers a 10-month course of instruction designed to prepare the student for the academy. All those who successfully complete the NAPS program will attend the Naval Academy the following summer.

Gaining entry to the Naval Academy is obviously highly competitive, but if you have prepared yourself well through high school, and follow the steps outlined, you have an equal opportunity to succeed. The Naval Academy is actively seeking outstanding young minority men and women who are seriously preparing themselves for college by working hard in high school now.

"The more I looked into attending the Academy, the more things added up . . . just the place for me."

"I'll tell you this: I'm walking out of here with a super education. Free. No one can hold me down now."

"The Naval Academy has everything—everything every other college has and more."

WHAT ARE THE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES?

"I want to be a naval officer. I suppose people will be watching me to see if I make it through here because I am a woman and I'm black. But I want to achieve this goal for myself."

"The academy taught me the value of organization. It helped me understand the necessity for flexibility in day to day activities and developed my capabilities to respond to the unexpected."

LCOL CHARLES F. BOLDEN, JR., USMC
CLASS OF 1968
NASA SPACE SHUTTLE ASTRONAUT

"The civilian schools asked if I wanted to play (football) for them. I told them no. If I got in, I wanted it to be on my academics. I didn't want to be obligated."

"WILL I BE ABLE TO MAKE IT INTO THE ACADEMY?"

There is only one way to know for sure, and that is to apply . . . *and apply early!* It takes four years of high school preparation to develop the strong academic, athletic, and extracurricular background required to compete successfully for admission to the Naval Academy. Unfortunately many minority candidates don't realize this until late in high school. It's essential to start preparing in your freshman year!

There are currently more than 600 highly talented minority midshipmen at the Naval Academy. These include male and female, blacks, hispanics, orientals, and native Americans, most having stood near the top of their high school graduating class, lettered in at least one sport, and were class officers. These midshipmen are involved in every facet of academy life and are successful at meeting the challenges placed before them. These individuals will graduate and find excellent opportunities, not only in the naval service but in all walks of life.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY COULD BE FOR YOU

Graduates from the U.S. Naval Academy include a former President of the United States, the first American scientist to receive a Nobel Prize, more than 25 Rhodes Scholars, two of the seven original astronauts, and a black space shuttle pilot. While the academy is proud of these achievements, it remains a professional college for future Navy and Marine Corps officers.

Consider the information in this pamphlet, then contact the academy's minority admissions counselors. They are available to answer questions, send you more information, arrange a visit to the academy, and give you insight into the Naval Academy challenge and the rewards of a future as a naval officer.

With midshipmen from all 50 states, the academy offers you a unique opportunity to associate with a broad cross section of the country's finest young men and women. As you might expect, the program is demanding, but the opportunities are limitless . . . and more than worth the effort.

If you think you measure up, have a strong will to win, and want to be a leader serving your country, find out more about what the Naval Academy has to offer you and how you may qualify for admission.

Write or call today:

U.S. Naval Academy
Candidate Guidance Office
Minority Admissions Counselor
Annapolis, MD 21402–5018
Toll free: 1–800–638–9156

To prepare midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically to be professional officers in the naval service

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